

REMARKS

Claims 1-22, 24-29, 31-37, 39 and 41-43, which the Examiner rejected were cancelled in the Amendments to Claims of the Response to Office Action dated June 18, 2004.

The Examiner previously objected to claims 23, 30, 38, 40 and 44 as being based on a rejected base claim. Claims 23, 30, 38, 40 and 44 were cancelled and these claims rewritten, as suggested by the Examiner, as new claims 45 through 49. That is, Applicant has now combined independent claims and dependent claims in a manner that renders the claims allowable. Specifically, the limitations of claims 19 and 20 have been added to claim 23 resulting in a new independent claim 45. Similarly, the limitations of claims 33 and 37 have been added to claim 38, and the limitations of claims 33, 35 and 39 have been added to claim 40 to create the remaining new claims.

The Applicants explain that new claims 45 through 49 are based upon objected to dependent claims 23, 30, 38, 40 and 44 and are presented in independent form. As noted by the Examiner, these new claims 45 through 49 (deriving from objected to claims 23, 30, 38, 40 and 44) are "allowable [because they are] rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims." New claims 45 through 49 are thus now allowable on their own merit. It is not necessary for the applicants to swear behind any prior art reference to support new claims 45 through 49 as written.

In view of the foregoing and the Examiner's Interview Summary dated May 17, 2005, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and Applicant expects that a Notice of Allowance will issue in due time. If for any reason the Examiner still finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number listed below to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. You are hereby authorized to charge any fees

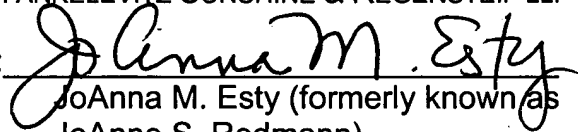
due and refund any surplus fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2899, referencing
docket number 16041.900100.

Respectfully submitted,

LINER YANKELEVITZ SUNSHINE & REGENSTEIF LLP

Date: 19-July-2005

By:



JoAnna M. Esty (formerly known as
JoAnne S. Redmann)

Registration No. 31,482

Attorney for Applicants

1100 Glendon Avenue, 14th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90024-3503
Telephone: (310) 500-3596
Facsimile: (310) 500-3501